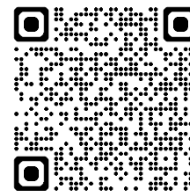


COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT AND HEARINGS

EFSB 25-10 and D.P.U. 25-75 – Proposed Rulemakings Pursuant to 2024 Climate Act

The Energy Facilities Siting Board (“Siting Board”) and Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) invite you to attend public comment hearings to learn about implementation of the siting and permitting changes required by the 2024 Climate Act ([An Act promoting a clean energy grid, advancing equity and protecting ratepayers](#)), and provide written and/or oral comments. The proposed regulations and guidance documents are posted on the Siting Board’s webpage at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-25-10-proposed-rulemaking> and the Department’s webpage at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dpu-25-75-proposed-rulemaking>.

The Siting Board and Department will conduct four hybrid public comment hearings with in-person and remote participation options:

Public Comment Hearing 1:

Monday, October 27, 6:00 p.m.

Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational
Technical High School, 1121 Ashley Blvd,
New Bedford, MA 02745, Auditorium

Public Comment Hearing 2:

Wednesday, October 29, 6:00 p.m.

Berkshire Innovation Center,
45 Woodlawn Ave, Pittsfield, MA 01201

Public Comment Hearing 3:

Monday, November 3, 6:00 p.m.

One South Station, Boston, MA 02110,
3rd floor, Large Hearing Room

Public Comment Hearing 4:

Wednesday, November 5, 6:00 p.m.

North Shore Community College,
300 Broad St., Lynn, MA 01901, Cafeteria

Remote attendees: join by using this link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612425626> from a computer, tablet, or smart device. For audio-only participation, attendees can dial-in at (646) 558-8656 (not a toll-free number) and then enter the Webinar ID: **161 242 5626**

Note: There will be opportunity to comment on all proposed regulations issued by the Siting Board and Department at the hearings. Public Comment Hearing 3 will focus on the Intervenor Support Grant Program regulation and guidance document.

The Department of Energy Resources will also conduct hearings for its regulations. For more information, visit: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/clean-energy-siting-permitting-regulations>.

The Siting Board and the Department also welcome written comments on the proposed regulations. Initial written comments will be most useful if submitted by 5:00 pm, **October 17, 2025**. Final written comments will be welcome by 5:00 pm, **November 7, 2025**.

Pre-registered commenters will speak first and others will speak afterwards. To pre-register to provide oral comments (in person or remote), use the Zoom link above or notify the meeting facilitator **ERG** at meetings@erg.com. Please provide your name and email address by **noon, on the day of the hearing**.

Comments are sought regarding the proposed regulations and guidance documents. The Siting Board and Department will not take comments on pending projects or other cases that are under review at the Siting Board or the Department. The public comment hearings will be transcribed by a court reporter. In addition, a recording of the public comment hearings will be available on the Siting Board's YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/@MaDPU_hearing.

Important Dates

Siting Board Meeting on Opening Rulemaking	Monday, September 8, 2025
Siting Board and Department file Proposed Regulations with the Secretary of State	Friday, September 12, 2025
Initial Deadline for Written Comments	Friday, October 17, 2025
Public Comment Hearings	October 27 – November 5, 2025
Final Deadline for Written Comments	Friday, November 7, 2025

Procedural History

In November 2024, Governor Maura Healey signed into law the 2024 Climate Act, St. 2024, c. 239, which makes many changes to the way that energy infrastructure is sited and permitted in Massachusetts. The Siting Board is required to promulgate regulations and guidance to implement reforms related to siting and permitting by March 1, 2026. The 2024 Climate Act also establishes the Department and Siting Board Intervenor Support Grant Program to provide financial assistance to eligible entities who are unable to participate in proceedings before the Department and Siting Board because of financial hardship. The Department and Siting Board issued straw proposals and conducted public meetings to hear comments on the straw proposals. Based on comments received, the Siting Board and Department drafted the proposed regulations. For more information, visit: <https://www.mass.gov/climateact>.

Siting Division staff issued for discussion purposes draft proposed regulations and guidance in July, then the Siting Board conducted a public meeting to hear comments on the draft proposed regulations. Based on comments received, Siting Division staff revised the proposed regulations. For more information, visit: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/2024-climate-act-regulations-meetings>. On September 8, 2025, the Siting Board heard staff presentations on the revised regulations and guidance proposals, and voted to open a formal rulemaking process. On September 12, 2025, the Siting Board issued a Final Decision to open the proposed rulemaking, docketed as EFSB 25-10; on September 12, 2025, the Department issued an Order instituting its rulemaking, docket D.P.U. 25-75.

The Siting Board proposes the following regulatory changes: revisions to 980 CMR 1.00, Rules for the Conduct of Adjudicatory Proceedings and 980 CMR 2.00, General Information and Conduct of Board Business; new regulations 980 CMR 13.00, Consolidated Permits for Clean Energy Infrastructure Facilities; 980 CMR 14.00, De Novo Adjudications of Consolidated Local Permit Applications; 980 CMR 16.00, Pre-Filing Consultation and Engagement Requirements; and 980 CMR 17.00, Constructive Approvals. The Siting Board proposes to repeal the following regulations: 980 CMR 4.00, Freedom of Information; Protection of Trade Secrets; 980 CMR 5.00,

Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact; 980 CMR 7.00, Long-Range Forecasts and Supplements; 980 CMR 8.00, Notices of Intention to Construct an Oil Facility; 980 CMR 9.00, Coastal Zone Facility Site Selection, Evaluation, and Assessment; and 980 CMR 11.00, Licensing of Hydropower Generating Facilities. The Department proposes the following new regulation: 220 CMR 34.00, Intervenor Support Grant Program.

Instructions for Filing Written Comments

Written comments on the Siting Board's proposed regulations, docket EFSB 25-10 must be sent to the following two email addresses: dpu.efiling@mass.gov and sitingboard.filing@mass.gov; written comments on the Intervenor Support Grant Program proposed regulation, docket D.P.U. 25-75, must be sent to the following two email addresses: dpu.efiling@mass.gov and julianne.desmet@mass.gov.

Initial written comments will be most useful if submitted by 5:00 pm, **October 17, 2025**. Final written comments will be welcome by 5:00 pm, **November 7, 2025**. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (EFSB 25-10 or D.P.U. 25-75); (2) the name of the person or entity submitting the filing; and (3) a brief description of the document. The email should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Written comments will be posted to the Siting Board and Department file rooms and accessible for the public to view.

Accommodation Requests and Language Services Requests

Interpretation services for the public comment hearings (in-person and Zoom) will be provided in Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, and American Sign Language (ASL). Additional language interpretation services are also available upon request in the Zoom link above, or to Yonathan Mengesha at (617) 305-3544 or Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov. Include in your request the language required and your contact information. To assist us in accommodating your request, please submit it as soon as possible, and at least one week before the specific public comment hearing (i.e., by October 20, 2025 for Public Comment Hearing 1).

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) are available upon request. To request an accommodation, please contact:

Melixza Esenyie
Non-Discrimination Coordinator and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Human Resources, 9th Floor
100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114
eeadiversity@mass.gov, 617-626-1282

In your communication, state the accommodation you need and why you need the accommodation. Provide contact information in case the Coordinator needs more information. Provide your request as soon as possible. The Coordinator will consider but may not be able to fulfill late requests.

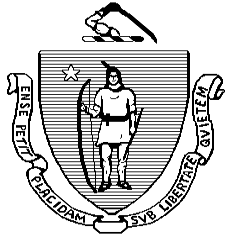
Non-discrimination Notice

The Siting Board and Department do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, income, ethnicity, class, disability, religious creed or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, English language proficiency or ancestry in administration of its programs or activities. See the Siting Board's Non-Discrimination Notice at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-non-discrimination-notice-and-grievance-procedure>. See the Department's Non-Discrimination Notice at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-dpu-non-discrimination-notice>.

If you have any questions about this notice or any of the Siting Board's non-discrimination programs, policies, or procedures or believe the Siting Board has discriminated against you, you may contact Melixza Esenyie ([see](#) above for contact information) for more information.

Contacts

For further information about the public comment hearings or proposed regulations, please send an email to sitingboard.filing@mass.gov. For periodic updates, please visit the Siting Board's webpage at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-25-10-proposed-rulemaking> and the Department's webpage at : <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dpu-25-75-proposed-rulemaking>.



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
ONE SOUTH STATION
BOSTON, MA 02110
(617) 305-3525

Translation and Interpretation Services

English

ATTENTION: Additional translation and/or interpretation services are available upon request at no direct cost to the individual requesting the service. Include in your request the language required and a way to contact you if we need more information. It may not be possible to fulfill last-minute requests. Contact Yonathan Mengesha at Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov to make a request.

Portugues (Standard Portuguese)

ATENÇÃO: Serviços adicionais de tradução e/ou interpretação estão disponíveis mediante solicitação, sem custo direto para o indivíduo que solicita o serviço. Inclua em sua solicitação o idioma necessário e uma forma de contato caso precisemos de mais informações. Pode não ser possível atender a pedidos de última hora. Entre em contato com Yonathan Mengesha pelo e-mail Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov para fazer a solicitação.

Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

ATANSYON: Sèvis tradiksyon ak/oswa entèpretasyon siplemantè disponib si w mande sa san yon pri dirèk pou moun k ap mande sèvis la. Nan demann ou an, mete lang ou egzijè a ak yon mwayen pou kontakte w si nou bezwen plis enfòmasyon. Li gendwa pa posib pou ranpli yon demann nan dènye lè. Kontakte Yonathan Mengesha nan Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov pou w fè yon demann

Français (French)

ATTENTION : Des services de traduction et/ou d'interprétation supplémentaires sont disponibles sur demande, sans frais directs pour le demandeur. Indiquez dans votre demande la langue requise et un moyen de vous contacter si nous avons besoin de plus d'informations. Il se peut que nous ne puissions pas répondre aux demandes de dernière minute. Merci de contacter Yonathan Mengesha à Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov pour faire une demande.

Русский (Russian)

ВНИМАНИЕ: дополнительные услуги письменного и (или) устного перевода предоставляются по запросу без прямых затрат для лица, обратившегося за услугой. Укажите в запросе требуемый язык и способ связаться с вами, если нам понадобится дополнительная информация. Исполнение срочных запросов не гарантируется. Чтобы сделать запрос, свяжитесь с Yonathan Mengesha по электронной почте Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov.

한국 (Korean)

주의: 추가 번역 및/또는 통역 서비스는 요청 시 직접 비용 없이 제공됩니다. 요청 시, 필요한 언어와 추가 정보가 필요할 경우 연락을 드릴 방법을 포함하십시오. 마지막 순간에 요청하시면 처리가 불가능할 수 있습니다. 요청하시려면 Yonathan Mengesha(Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov)에게 연락하시기 바랍니다.

Español (Spanish)

ATENCIÓN: Hay servicios adicionales de traducción y/o interpretación disponibles a pedido sin costo directo para la persona que solicita el servicio. Incluya en su solicitud el idioma requerido y una forma de comunicarnos con usted si necesitamos más información. Es posible que no sea posible cumplir con solicitudes de último momento. Comuníquese con Yonathan Mengesha a Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov para realizar una solicitud.

中文 (Simplified Chinese)

注意: 可应请求提供另外的翻译和/或口译服务, 且不会直接向请求服务的个人收取费用。务必在请求中指明所需的语言, 还有我们可以联系您的方式。临时或迟交的请求, 可能无法满足。提出语言服务请求, 联系 Yonathan Mengesha 电子信箱: Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov。

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

LUU Ý: Có cung cấp các dịch vụ biên dịch (viết) và/hoặc thông dịch (nói) bổ sung khi được yêu cầu, và dịch vụ này được cung cấp miễn phí cho các cá nhân yêu cầu dịch vụ. Trong yêu cầu của mình, quý vị hãy ghi rõ ngôn ngữ được yêu cầu và phương thức liên hệ quý vị nếu chúng tôi cần thêm thông tin. Những yêu cầu vào phút chót có thể không được đáp ứng. Hãy liên ông Yonathan Mengesha tại địa chỉ Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov để gửi yêu cầu.

(Arabic) العربية

ملاحظة: تتوفر خدمات إضافية للترجمة التحريرية و/أو الترجمة الشفوية عند الطلب دون تكلفة مباشرة للفرد الذي يطلب الخدمة. ادرج في طلبك اللغة المطلوبة وطريقة للاتصال بك إذا احتجنا إلى مزيد من المعلومات. قد لا يكون من الممكن تلبية طلبات اللحظة الأخيرة. تواصل مع Yonathan Mengesha على Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov لتقديم طلب.

ខ្មែរ (Khmer)

សូមកត់សម្គាល់: សេវាកម្មបកប្រែឯកសារ និង/ឬបកប្រែផ្ទាល់មាត់មានតាមការស្នើសុំដោយមិនគិតថ្លៃផ្ទាល់ចំពោះបុគ្គលដែលស្នើសុំសេវាកម្មនេះ។ បញ្ចូលទៅក្នុងសំណើរបស់អ្នកសម្រាប់ភាសាដែលត្រូវការ និងវិធីទាក់ទងអ្នកប្រសិនបើយើងត្រូវការព័ត៌មានបន្ថែម។ ប្រហែលជាមិនអាចបំពេញតាមសំណើ ដែលជូនដំណឹងយឺតបានទេ។ សូមទាក់ទង Yonathan Mengesha តាម Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov ដើម្បីស្នើសុំ។

Small Business Impact Statement

(As required by M.G.L. c. 30A §§ 2, 3 & 5)

CMR No: 220 CMR 34.00: Intervenor Support Grant Program

Estimate of the Number of Small Businesses Impacted by the Regulation: The regulation does not apply to businesses, including small businesses.

Select Yes or No and Briefly Explain

Yes ☐	No ☐	Will small businesses have to create, file, or issue additional reports? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Will small businesses have to implement additional recordkeeping procedures? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Will small businesses have to provide additional administrative oversight? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Will small businesses have to hire additional employees in order to comply with the proposed regulation? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Does compliance with the regulation require small businesses to hire other professionals (e.g. a lawyer, accountant, engineer, etc.)? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Does the regulation require small businesses to purchase a product or make any other capital investments in order to comply with the regulation? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☒	Are performance standards more appropriate than design/operational standards to accomplish the regulatory objective? (Performance standards express requirements in terms of outcomes, giving the regulated party flexibility to achieve regulatory objectives and design/operational standards specify exactly what actions regulated parties must take.)
Yes ☐	No ☒	Do any other regulations duplicate or conflict with the proposed regulation?
Yes ☐	No ☐	Does the regulation require small businesses to cooperate with audits, inspections or other regulatory enforcement activities? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.

Yes ☐	No ☐	Does the regulation require small businesses to provide educational services to keep up to date with regulatory requirements? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Is the regulation likely to <i>deter</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Is the regulation likely to <i>encourage</i> the formation of small businesses in Massachusetts? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Does the regulation provide for less stringent compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Does the regulation establish less stringent schedules or deadlines for compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Did the agency consolidate or simplify compliance or reporting requirements for small businesses? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Can performance standards for small businesses replace design or operational standards without hindering delivery of the regulatory objective? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.
Yes ☐	No ☐	Are there alternative regulatory methods that would minimize the adverse impact on small businesses? N/A. The regulation does not apply to small businesses. The Intervenor Support Program provides financial assistance to eligible individuals, community organizations and local governments.